

Message Text

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STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, PEPR, ETRD, PINS, PINT, PDIP

SUBJECT: WEEKLY STATUS REPORT -- THAILAND, INDONESIA,
MALAYSIA, BURMA AND SINGAPORE AFFAIRS
MALAYSIA
PM HUSSEIN LEADS MALAYSIAN DELEGATION TO REGIONAL COMMON-
WEALTH MEETING IN AUSTRALIA (CONF)

PRIME MINISTER HUSSEIN IS CURRENTLY ATTENDING A FOUR DAY
REGIONAL MEETING OF COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT IN
SYDNEY (FEBRUARY 13TH - 16TH). HIS LAST MINUTE ANNOUNCE-
MENT TO ATTEND REFLECTS THE SECURITY MEASURES TAKEN TO
REDUCE THE POSSIBILITY OF THE VISIT BEING MARRED BY
MALAYSIAN STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS. THE RAZAK VISIT OF
1975 WAS MARRED BY MALAYSIAN LEFTISTS, WHILE THE CONCERN
IN THIS PRE-ELECTION PERIOD IS PROTESTS BY MALAY STUDENTS
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WHO HAVE COME UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ISLAMIC RADICALS.

ELECTION FEVER IN MALAYSIA (CONF)

EMBASSY KL REPORTS THAT A NUMBER OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS
HAVE BROUGHT INTO CLEARER FOCUS THE PROSPECTS FOR EARLY

ELECTIONS FOR STATE AND NATIONAL LEGISLATURES. THE MOST
DRAMATIC WAS THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT EMERGENCY RULES IN
KELANTAN STATE ARE LIFTED AND THAT ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD

FOR THE STATE LEGISLATURE WITHIN 60 DAYS. ALSO, THE
PRESS DURING THE PAST FEW WEEKS HAS BEEN FULL OF ELECTION
RELATED ITEMS. THE EMBASSY CONSIDERS THAT THE CHANCES
HAVE INCREASED THAT THE PRIME MINISTER MAY ANNOUNCE
GENERAL ELECTIONS SOON AFTER HIS RETURN FROM AUSTRALIA.

SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE-VIETNAMESE RELATIONS IMPROVING? (CONF)

EMBASSY SINGAPORE REPORTS A RATHER CONFUSING DIALOGUE
WHICH OCCURRED BETWEEN THE SINGAPORE PRESS, THE
SINGAPORE MFA AND VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS FOLLOWING A
REPORT BY THE PRESS THAT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL CONTACTS
BETWEEN SINGAPORE AND VIETNAM OCCURRED RECENTLY IN KL.
THE PRESS REPORTED THAT HANOI INDICATED A DESIRE TO
OPEN A CONSULATE GENERAL IN SINGAPORE AND ANNOUNCED
THAT TWO VIETNAMESE TRADE DELEGATIONS WOULD VISIT
SINGAPORE WITHIN THE MONTH. THE INITIAL PRESS REPORT
WAS CONFIRMED IN A LATER PRESS INTERVIEW BY SINGAPORE'S
FOREIGN MINISTER BUT MFA OFFICIALS AND VIETNAMESE
OFFICIALS IN K.L. SUBSEQUENTLY FLATLY DENIED THAT SUCH
TALKS TOOK PLACE.

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THE EMBASSY NOTES THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS TIME
TO DETERMINE PRECISELY WHAT HAS OCCURRED, BUT THAT
COMMUNICATIONS HAVE OBVIOUSLY PASSED BETWEEN THE TWO
GOVERNMENTS. THE FORTHCOMING TRADE MISSION VISITS,
HOWEVER, AT LEAST INDICATE THAT TRADE RELATIONS ARE
MOVING AGAIN AFTER THE TEMPORARY SETBACK BROUGHT ON BY
THE HIGHJACKING INCIDENT.

INDONESIA

RUBBER (LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

EXPRESSING SOME CONCERN ABOUT THE U.S. POSITION ON BUFFER
STOCKS IN AN EVENTUAL INTERNATIONAL RUBBER AGREEMENT,
THE INDONESIAN EMBASSY HAS ASKED FOR AN APPOINTMENT IN
THE DEPARTMENT. REPRESENTATIVES OF EB AND EA WILL MEET
WITH THEM ON FEB 15.

DOE CONFERENCE ON PACIFIC-INDONESIA (PI) LNG DECISION
(LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

THE ECONOMIC REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION OF DOE HAS CALLED A FEBRUARY 22 CONFERENCE OF ALL INTERESTED PARTIES TO THE PI DECISION HANDED DOWN BY DOE ON DECEMBER 30. PERTAMINA, THE CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANIES AND VARIOUS

OTHER PUBLIC, INDUSTRY AND ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS HAVE FILED APPLICATIONS FOR REHEARING OF THE CASE, AND WILL HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS. THE NATURE OF THE EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE INTERESTED PARTIES AND THE ECONOMIC REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION (ERA) AT THE ALL-DAY CONFERENCE ON FEBRUARY 22 IS MURKY, BUT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ERA WILL INDICATE ITS VIEWS ON CRITICAL AND UN-RESOLVED LNG ISSUES AND ELABORATE ON THEIR EARLIER DECISION. GAS COMPANY REPRESENTATIVES HAVE INDICATED CONFIDENTIAL

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THAT THEY WILL PARTICIPATE, BUT CANNOT AS YET FORESEE THE OUTCOME OF THE MEETING NOR INDEED HOW IT WILL BE CARRIED ON.

F-5 NOTIFICATION - UNCLASSIFIED

DOD/DSAA SENT THE UNCLASSIFIED FORMAL CERTIFICATION ON THE PROPOSED F-5 FMS CREDIT SALE TO THE CONGRESS ON FEBRUARY 15, STARTING THE THIRTY DAY CLOCK BEFORE AN LOA MAY BE FINALLY SIGNED.

FRASER SUB-COMMITTEE HEARINGS - LOU

HA MARK SCHNEIDER, EA BOB OAKLEY, AMB (RET) GALBRAITH AND CORNEL PROF BEN ANDERSON SPENT A LONG SESSION IN FRONT OF CONG FRASER (ONLY OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBER PRESENT BRIEFLY WAS DERWINSKI) ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND MILITARY ASSISTANCE. ANDERSON MADE SWEEPING CONDEMNATION OF SUHARTO GOVERNMENT INCLUDING CLAIMS THAT TREND ON HUMAN RIGHTS WAS ONE OF INCREASING DETERIORATION AND THAT REGIME RESTED SOLELY ON US MILITARY AND ECONOMIC SUPPORT FRASER'S QUESTIONS FOCUSED MAINLY ON EAST TIMOR, THE USE OF US-SUPPLIED EQUIPMENT THERE, AND THE LEGAL AND POLICY ISSUES OF THE USE OF US EQUIPMENT BY RECIPIENT COUNTRIES "IN TERRITORIES WHICH HAVE NOT HAD OPPORTUNITIES" TO EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT OF SELF-DETERMINATION. MUCH ATTENTION CENTERED ON ANDERSON'S TESTIMONY (CONFIRMED BY DSAA DEPUTY DIRECTOR VON MARBOD) THAT OFFERS AND ACCEPTANCES OF SOME MAP MATERIALS DID OCCUR DURING THE SIX MONTH ADMINISTRATION SUSPENSION OF NEW ASSISTANCE FROM DEC 75 TO JUNE 76. WE WILL BE PREPARING SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENTS FOR THE RECORD ON THIS AND SEVERAL OTHER ISSUES RAISED BY FRASER AS A RESULT OF ANDERSON'S TESTI-

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MONEY. OVERALL, A MORE LIVELY SESSION THAN MOST PREVIOUS
ONES. AMB. ASHARI ATTENDED INCOGNITO ENROUTE FROM
PRESENTING CREDENTIALS.

PL-480 TITLE III - LOU

EA AND AID OFFICERS (INCLUDING DEPASSTSEC HEGINBOTHAM AND
FFP RESOURCE CHIEF JENNETTE) MET FEB 14 TO REVIEW PL-480
III PROSPECTS. JENNETTE WILL SHORTLY VISIT JAKARTA AND
HAS BEEN ASKED TO BRING COUNTRY TEAM UP-TO-DATE ON
WASHINGTON DEVELOPMENTS. IN PREVIOUS EXCHANGES WITH THE
MISSION, JAKARTA HAS BEEN ENCOURAGED TO BEGIN EXPLORATION
WITH THE GOI ON PROJECTS THAT WOULD ABOVE ALL IMPROVE THE
FOOD SITUATION IN JAVA. PROJECTS TO BE CONSIDERED INCLUDE
NON-RICE CROPPING, WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT -- IRRIGATION
IMPROVEMENT AND GROUND WATER INVESTIGATIONS, NEW POPULATION
PROGRAMS, AND REFORESTATION. AS SOON AS FORMAL PROPOSALS
ARE IN FROM THE FIELD, WE WILL BE ABLE TO BEGIN THE
REVIEW PROCESS HERE. VANCE

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